

**STATE OF CONNETICUT**  
**State Innovation Model**  
***Community Health Worker Advisory Committee***  
**Meeting Summary**  
**Tuesday, April 11, 2018**  
**10:00am – 11:00am**

**Design Group 3 – Met via Webinar**

Attendees: Liza Estevez, Grace Damio, Erika Lynch, Ashika Brinkley, Michael Corjulo, Linda Guzzo, Cecil Tengtanga, Milagrosa Seguinot

Absent: Chioma Ogazi

Facilitators: Meredith Ferraro, Maggie Litwin

Other Participants: Fatawu Mahama, Bruce Gould

Process

The group will meet in person at Value Options on Tuesday, April 17 and Tuesday, May 15, 2:30-4:30. We will schedule phone calls in between each meeting.

1. Introductions & Review Decisions for March 20 Meeting

The meeting began with Meredith Ferraro explaining that the meeting minutes from the Design Group 3 meeting on 3/20/2018 were distributed. This conversation will pick up where that one ended. Then Meredith Ferraro reviewed the one key decision that was made during this meeting which was to accept the C3 Core Competencies that were previously decided on by the CHW Advisory Committee as the content for the training. Then Meredith Ferraro introduced the remaining key decisions that still need to be made by this group and the ones that will be focused on today.

Key Decision Points \*Bolded are the decision points being focused on today

1. **Number of training hours**
2. **Training modality/methodology**
3. **Standards for instructional methods** - now will be referred to as **“Training Delivery”**
4. **Internship**
5. Training vendor criteria
6. Instructor qualifications
7. How does the training program assess proficiency?
8. Determine/develop type of assessment

In addition to this, Southwestern AHEC reached out to national CHW expert Carl Rush for some input. In summary, this is what he had to say regarding number of training hours, modality/methodology, delivery methods, and internship:

- Most of these points can and should be debated on the Committee, with robust discussion of pros and cons
- No obvious answers/no clear consensus or “best practice”
- The required length of an educational program depends very much on defined core competencies and the definition of “certified” as to the implied level of proficiency
- CHW education should at least be based on adult learning principles.
- Lecture and quiz formats are to be avoided.

- Due to the nature of the work, learning should be participatory and interactive. Many people recommend popular ed, but not everyone is comfortable with it or adept at it, so some adaptation is usually necessary.
- In-person is always best, and individual (independent) online learning is not a good idea, but hybrid and interactive TV modes can work, in recognition of the needs of smaller states and rural areas.
- An internship or practicum is highly recommended, the longer the better: my impression is most are 40-80 hours - it's a tool for student assessment as well as integration of learning.

## 2. Review of Other States – Number of Training Hours

Meredith Ferraro reviewed the number of training hours in Florida, Massachusetts, Rhode Island and Texas along with their core competencies. Erika Lynch raised question of what qualifies someone to be accepted into a training program? This question was thought to be important, and will be revisited during a later discussion.

The current length of CHW training in CT was also discussed. The group seemed to be in agreement that 30 hours, like Florida has, is too little. There appeared to be general consensus that training should be at least 80 hours to cover the basic foundations, it was clarified to the group that this was not including the internship. Linda Guzzo raised some concerns about the training being only 80 hours. She felt that it should be 90 hours, plus the internship. Linda Guzzo believed this was important because the feedback they received from past students was that they wanted to be able to earn college credits. 90 hours of training would help to address this and create a pathway for CHWs to higher education.

## 3. Review of Other States – Training Modality/Methodology & Training Delivery

Time did not permit discussion of these key decision points.

## 4. Internship

Time did not permit discussion of this key decision point.

## 5. Next Steps

It was decided that this group would pick up where they left off by finishing the discussion about the number of training hours and then continuing with the rest of the discussion that was planned for today.